

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – MAY 16, 2012

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. as duly advertised. All three commissioners (President Bill Amos, Louis Jody Fortwendel, and Thomas Hauser) were in attendance. A representative of the *Perry County News* was also present.

HIGHWAY 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Susan Harpenau, Deputy Auditor presented the 2011 Highway Annual Report for the commissioner's approval. It was explained that when approved, the Highway Department will forward a copy to the State Board of Accounts. Jody made the motion to approve the annual report with Tom seconding the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

CLAIMS

Bill made a motion to approve the Election claims dated May 16, 2012 in the amount of \$8,021.56 Jody seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0.

WELLNESS PROGRAM

Local Insurance Agent, Pete Franzman, and Rex Whitten with Benicomp attended the meeting to discuss a wellness program for county employees. Pete stated that he and Bill had spoken about a group wellness program for the county in order to help reduce insurance claims. He stated that the more saved in claims would help the over all insurance cost to the county. Pete explained that Benicomp has been in the wellness business for many years and are approved by the State Insurance Agency.

Rex explained that they do work in all 50 states. He stated that health insurance rates have gone up over the years. Co pays have increased, employees are encouraged to use generic drugs and this may have helped at one time, but we are not controlling what is the cause of the claims. He explained that there are 4 lifestyle related conditions that have a large impact on the cost of health insurance. Those conditions are tobacco use; hypertension (blood pressure); cholesterol; and obesity/body mass index. Their company would do blood screenings on all employees and their spouses that are covered by the county's health insurance. Each employee will receive a letter in the mail with the results of the blood screening. They will be contacted by a nurse from Benicomp to discuss their blood results and the nurse will work with them on how they can make improvements to change the results. Rex stated that if the county can encourage employees to change their lifestyles then the county could see a saving when it renews its health insurance.

Benicomp will educate the employees on the program. The cost for the blood screening will be approximately \$200.00 per person. At this time the company is also working with the City of Tell City, and if the blood screening could be combined and done on the same day that could be a savings for both the county and the city. At this time the cost of the blood screening could be taken from the insurance trust account, and if later in the year more money is needed then the commissioners would have to ask for an additional appropriation from the County Council.

Pete explained that the county can offer incentives to employees to take part in the program. Because the county is grandfathered in the current health insurance plan there is not much that can be offered for incentives until 2014. It was discussed that if an employee takes part in the program maybe they could be offered a reduction in their monthly insurance rate for each of the lifestyle changes they pass.

The commissioners all agreed that this was a good plan and would take a vote at their June 4th meeting.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

County Administrator, Teresa Kanneberg, announced that the commissioners will have an appointment to the Perry County Airport Authority. The appointment is a 4 year appointment which will expire on June 30, 2012. The candidate has to be a republican. The position is currently held by Gene Borders. She would like to have letters from anyone interested in serving on this board by June 19th, and the commissioners will make the appointment at their meeting on June 20th.

Teresa announced that the next meeting of the Perry County Board of Commissioners will be held on Monday, June 4, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting ended in open session at 9:50 a.m.

Minutes approved this 4th day of June 2011.

Bill Amos, President

Louis J. Fortwendel

Thomas J. Hauser

*Minutes prepared by:
Connie A. Berger, Perry County Auditor*